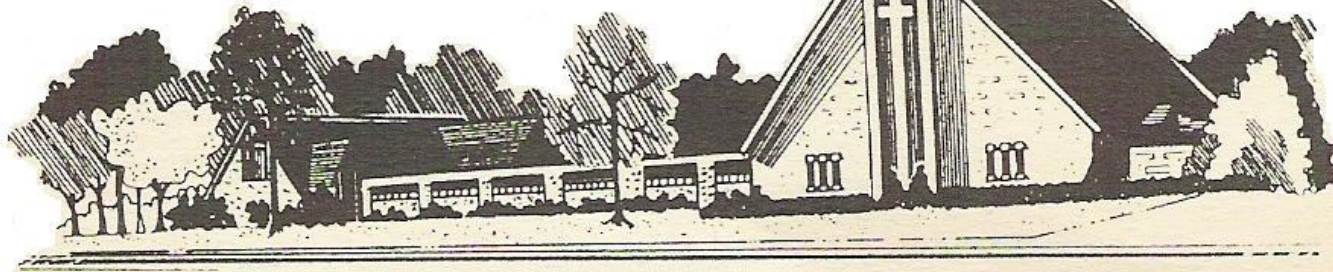


# OAKS NOTES



Oaks Christian Church is a family church that loves to share God's word, God's Love, and God's fellowship with the world. We are a church in the near inner loop that strives to be a helpful part of the community. We are about Deep Christian spirituality, a true community and a passion for Justice. We celebrate communion every Sunday service and all who believe are welcome to receive.



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## A Note from Pastor Don



### Note from Pastor Don

Several weeks ago, on our way back from Oklahoma, we passed a hotel in Fort Worth – one we often stayed in when we went to visit Kelsey at TCU. Linda and I began reminiscing

about one of the times we stayed there. The building was packed full of WWII vets who were having one of their last reunions in the state of Texas.

Everywhere we went, the place was just crawling with older men in their WWII hats and vests. They were in the elevators, down at the ice machines, and at the breakfast buffet. You couldn't go anywhere without being surrounded by these men who served our country at such a critical time.

Now for the most part, they were a very polite... but not overly chatty bunch. But for those of you who know me, you won't find it shocking when I say I took great pleasure in asking these men where they served, what their medals were for, what they did, and what they did when they got home. And it seemed that once you got these guys "started" telling stories of what they did, and why they did it, there was no turning them "off!"

Their stories were never gruesome... just fascinating facts of so many things I'd never heard before. And their love for their country and each other came through with every word. And you could tell by that twinkle in their eyes the passion that existed, even though these guys must have been

I looked at one of the veterans when we were standing at the ice machine, and I said, "You guys really like telling these stories, don't you?" To which one of the men replied, "Well, of course we've all heard each other's stories before. It's great to tell them to someone who hasn't heard."

I've often thought how those words of that man at the ice machine are relevant for the church today. These men loved something enough to lay their life on the line for it. I hope we love our savior enough that we are willing to sacrifice for Him, too.

All too often, it seems that our friends are the ones who hear our stories of what we've done and are willing to do for the God we love. But God wants us to tell those who haven't heard, and to let them hear how we love Him. It will make a difference to us... and the world around us! Those men in the hotel changed their world forever... let's change ours. See ya Sunday!

In His Grip,  
Don



# OAKS RECOGNIZES VETERANS FOR THE FOURTH

To celebrate the men and women who have defended our freedom, we asked Oaks veterans to share their stories.



**Name: Linda Joseph**  
**Branch: Air Force**  
**Years of Service: 1981-1991**

Linda spent four years of active duty in Colorado Springs, CO, where she served at the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), a Command Headquarters. "Not only did I get to see the military at a high spot, but it is a Unified Command,"

she said, "so I served with components from the Air Force, Army, Navy, and Marines." Linda said that knowing the day-to-day operations of different troops gave her a great appreciation for service men and women stationed around the world.

Working at NORAD during the 80s also allowed Linda to be part of a special time in Air Force history. "I served at Command Headquarters when Space Command came into its being," she said. "We literally helped to establish the Air Force position in space operations." Not to mention, she even got to track Santa Claus a few times!

Linda said she has one piece of advice for the service men and women today: "Stand proud, and enjoy every minute!"



**Name: Joe Saldivar**  
**Branch: Army**  
**Years of Service: 1959-1962**

Joe enlisted in the Army after finishing high school, because he felt it was better than waiting to be drafted. Plus, he admitted he had a hankering to attend Jump School.

After his enlistment, Joe went to Fort Riley, KS for his basic training.

It was harder than he expected, he said, but luckily, he was young and in good shape, so he soon adapted to it. The hardest part came when he had to make his first jump out of a plane. He remembers being afraid, but the alternative of not jumping was a worse option. "You had to be more brave to quit than to stay in jump school," he said. "If you quit, you would get harassed."

Joe served as a member of the 101st Airborne in the US and in Germany. He said he felt proud to be part of that group, and that he made good friends with all races while serving. He hopes other service men and women today feel that same pride. "If you join, join proudly," he said. "Be a patriot. Stand behind the flag."



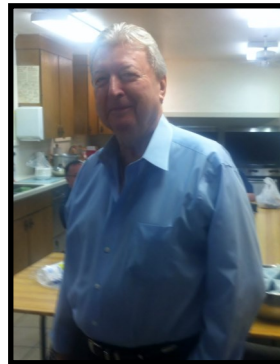
**Name: Don Murray**  
**Branch: Army**  
**Years of Service: 1949-1952**

Don originally planned to enlist in the Air Force, but when the recruiter told him all the open spots were filled for the quarter, Don walked next door to join the Army instead.

From there, he saw a lot of the country, spending time in various bases around the US. In 1950, Don was sent overseas to Japan. Upon arrival, he was supposed to set up airbases at Yokohama, but plans quickly changed. "By the time we got to Yokohama, the deal in Korea had broken out, so we just marched off of one ship and onto another ship."

Don spent two years in Korea during the Korean War. He helped operate a 90 milometer anti-aircraft gun. Though he was often exposed to dangerous environments, he said he was never afraid. "I guess I put faith in God that He's going to take care of me wherever I am," Don said.

In 1951, Don came back to the US, and finished the rest of his extended enlistment time until his discharge in June of 1952.



**Name: Glen Slaven**  
**Branch: Army**  
**Years of Service: 1948-1952**


Glen joined the Army in 1948 to get his education paid for. He was stationed in the United States all four years, staying in Fort Bragg, NC. He said he made good friends with the other men he served with, and that those guys became his main source of

support during his years of service.

Glen said the most difficult moment in his military career was the airborne training, which required jumping from a plane. He said he jumped multiple times, but he never got to a point where he truly enjoyed doing it, possibly because of a parachute landing that ended badly one time. "I had a crazy experience," he said. "I wasn't paying attention while I was coming down, and I fell all the way through a tree." Luckily, Glen wasn't injured during the incident, but he said he often looks back on that day with awe that he walked away so easily from it.

Glen said he was proud to serve his country and hopes men and women today will continue to serve with honor.

# July 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Women's Bible Study @ 6:30 pm	4  Fourth of July	5 Renovada Event from 5 pm - 7 pm
6 Sunday School @ 9:45 am; Worship	7	8 Prayer Circle @ 9:30 am; CWF Mtg.	9	10 Women's Bible Study @ 6:30 pm	11 Boy Scouts @ 7:30 pm; Renovada Bible	12 Jamail Blunt & Melanie Clawson
13 Sunday School @ 9:45 am; Worship @ 10:45 am;	14	15	16	17 Women's Bible Study @ 6:30 pm	18 Boy Scouts @ 7:30 pm; Renovada Bible	19
20 Sun. School @ 9:45 am; Worship @ 10:45; Dialysis Support	21 Journey Jammers Music Practice	22	23	24 Women's Bible Study @ 6:30 pm	25 Boy Scouts @ 7:30 pm; Renovada Bible	26 Community Lunch @ 12-2 pm
27 Sunday School @ 9:45 am; Worship	28	29	30	31 Women's Bible Study @ 6:30 pm		



## Happy July Birthdays!

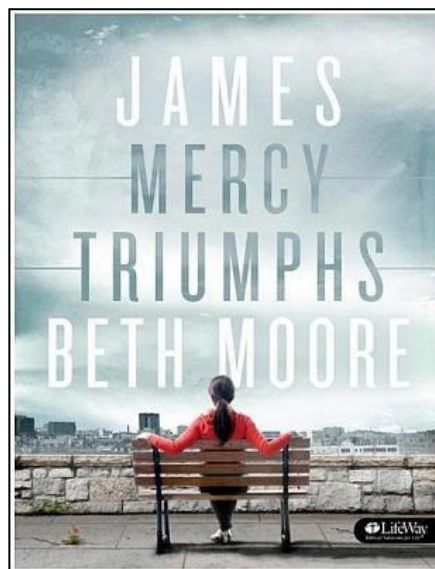
7.10 Lester Baker  
7.19 Billie Murray  
7.28 Kelsey Joseph



## From the Treasurer - Dorene Drake

Operating Account '14	2014 MARCH	2014 APRIL	2014 MAY
Deposits	\$10,914.71	\$9,001.00	\$8,203.55
Disbursements	\$9,517.69	\$9,486.38	\$10,328.20
Difference	\$1,397.02	\$(485.38)	\$(2,124.65)

## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY



Looking for something to do this summer? Remember: the women at Oaks are invited to study Beth Moore's book, "Mercy Triumphs," a Bible Study on the book of James. Meetings occur each Thursday night at 6:30 in the Hospitality Room. Beth Moore is a well known author and American evangelist who is based in the Houston area. This Bible Study is a great fellowship opportunity for all women at the church!

If you have any questions, please contact Barb Scantlin at [scantbabs@comcast.net](mailto:scantbabs@comcast.net).



# Oaks Christian Church

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## SUMMER SCHEDULES AT OAKS

With the summer months now upon us, some of the organizations at Oaks will have different meeting times until the fall season begins in September. Please make note of the following schedules:



- **CWF:** Meeting only on the second Tuesdays of each month after Prayer Circle. Meetings will be used to make blankets for Children's Hospital.
- **CMF:** Cancelled until Sept.
- **Handbells:** Cancelled until Sept.
- **Tuesday Night Bible Study:** Cancelled until Sept.
- **Girl Scouts:** Cancelled until Sept.